(iv) Setting up of new washeries for washing of coking coals for use of steel plants.

(v) Setting up of coal beneficiation projects for supply of beneficiated coal mainly for some of the distant power stations located more than 1000 Kms. from coalfields.

These measures have helped in reducing the deteriorating trend in quality coal production.

Corruption in CIL

5068. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:
SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Goovernment has been drawn to the news-items captioned "Corruption in Coal India alleged by Bengal body" as reported in "Ecomonic Times" dated 19th April, 1995;

(b) if so, whether the faulty implementation of computer network in Eastern Coolfields has severely affected a large number of small and medium industries drawing coal;

(c) if so, the facts and details thereof; and

(d) corrective measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) There is no fault in implementation of computer network in ECL. Computerised road sales system connects 23 different areas to ECL sales office at Calcutta. In the event of any breakdown in any unit, sales data is sent to Calcutta Sales Office by floppy through the company dak which takes only one day. This has benefitted the ECL and the consumers at large.

Privatisation of coal sector

5069. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the status of the proposal to privatise coal mining sector;

(b) whether any steps have been taken; and

(c) which are the public sector mines ear-marked for privatisation, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) to (c). There is no proposal to privatise coal mining sector by way of transfering public sector mines to private hands. However, conidering the need to augment power generation and to meet the additional fuel requirements of power sector during the eighth plan, the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 has been amended w.e.f. 09.06.1993 to allow private sector participation in coal mining for generation of power, for washing of coal obtained from a mine or for other end uses to be notified by Government from time to time in addition to the existing provisions for the production of iron and steel.

देश में कोयले का भंडार

5070. श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे :
श्री चिमनभाई हरिभाई शुक्ल :

क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में कोयले का अनुमानित भंडार कितना है ।

(ख) क्या घटिया किस्म के कोयले का भंडार बढ़िया किस्म के कोयले के भंडार से अधिक है ,